



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

Docket No. USCG-2012-0642

RIN 1625-AA00

Safety Zone: Gilmerton Bridge Center Span Float-in, Elizabeth River; Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Chesapeake, Virginia.

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Interim Temporary Final Rule

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SUMMARY: The Coast Guard will establish a temporary safety zone on the navigable waters of the Elizabeth River in Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Chesapeake, VA. This action is necessary to provide for the safety of life on navigable waters during the Gilmerton Bridge Center Span Float-in and bridge construction of span placement. This action is intended to restrict vessel traffic movement to protect mariners from the hazards associated with the float-in and span placement.

DATES: This rule will be effective from January 7, 2013 through January 16, 2013. The rule is scheduled to be enforced from 6:00 a.m. on January 7, 2013 through January

11, 2013, with inclement weather dates of January 12, 2013 through January 16, 2013. Comments and related material must be received by the Coast Guard on or before [INSERT DATE 14 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by docket number using any one of the following methods:

(1) Federal eRulemaking Portal:

<http://www.regulations.gov>.

(2) Fax: 202-493-2251.

(3) Mail or Delivery: Docket Management Facility (M-30), U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Deliveries accepted between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

See the "Public Participation and Request for Comments" portion of the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below for further instructions on submitting comments. To avoid duplication, please use only one of these three methods.

ADDRESSES: Documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket are part of docket USCG-2012-0642 and are available online by going to

<http://www.regulations.gov>, inserting USCG-2012-0642 in the

"Search" box, and then clicking "Search." They are also available for inspection or copying at the Docket Management Facility (M-30), U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this temporary rule, call or e-mail LCDR Hector Cintron, Waterways Management Division Chief, Sector Hampton Roads, Coast Guard; telephone 757-668-5581, e-mail Hector.L.Cintron@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202-366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Acronyms

DHS	Department of Homeland Security
FR	Federal Register
NPRM	Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

A. Public Participation and Request for Comments

We encourage you to participate in this rulemaking by submitting comments and related materials. All comments received will be posted without change to

<http://www.regulations.gov> and will include any personal information you have provided.

1. Submitting comments

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this rulemaking, indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You may submit your comments and material online at <http://www.regulations.gov>, or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. If you submit a comment online, it will be considered received by the Coast Guard when you successfully transmit the comment. If you fax, hand deliver, or mail your comment, it will be considered as having been received by the Coast Guard when it is received at the Docket Management Facility. We recommend that you include your name and a mailing address, an e-mail address, or a telephone number in the body of your document so that we can contact you if we have questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, type the docket number (USCG-2012-0426) in the "SEARCH" box and click "SEARCH." Click on "Submit a Comment" on the line associated with this rulemaking.

If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit comments by mail and would like to know that they reached the Facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. We will consider all comments and material received during the comment period and may change the rule based on your comments.

## 2. Viewing comments and documents

To view comments, as well as documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, type the docket number (USCG-2012-0426) in the "SEARCH" box and click "SEARCH." Click on Open Docket Folder on the line associated with this rulemaking. You may also visit the Docket Management Facility in Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the Department of Transportation West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

## 3. Privacy Act

Anyone can search the electronic form of comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor

union, etc.). You may review a Privacy Act notice regarding our public dockets in the January 17, 2008, issue of the Federal Register (73 FR 3316).

#### 4. Public meeting

We do not now plan to hold a public meeting. But you may submit a request for one, using one of the methods specified under ADDRESSES. Please explain why you believe a public meeting would be beneficial. If we determine that one would aid this rulemaking, we will hold one at a time and place announced by a later notice in the Federal Register.

#### B. Regulatory History and Information

On July 25, 2012, the Coast Guard published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) proposing a safety zone in the Gilmerton Bridge Area (77 FR 43557) on September 5-9, 2012. We received no comments on the proposed rule.

Under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. Because of shifting construction schedules, the Coast Guard was unable to determine the precise date of the construction until recently. Therefore, waiting for a 30 day notice period to run would have been impracticable.

C. Basis and Purpose

On January 7, 2013 through January 11, 2013, with inclement weather dates of January 12, 2013 through January 16, 2013, PCL Civil Construction, Inc. will facilitate removal of the existing bascule spans from the Gilmerton Bridge, transport of the new center span from the Eastern Branch of the Elizabeth River at the Campostella Bridge to the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth river at the Gilmerton Bridge in Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Chesapeake, VA and the placement of the center span at the Gilmerton Bridge in Chesapeake, VA. There is a danger of falling debris during the removal of the existing structures and installation of the new bridge span. Due to the need to protect mariners and the public transiting the Elizabeth River from hazards associated with the span move and construction of span placement, the Coast Guard has determined that a moving safety zone and an extended waterway closure at the Gilmerton Bridge is necessary for public safety purposes.

C. Discussion of Final Rule

The Captain of the Port Hampton Roads is establishing a temporary moving safety zone around the Gilmerton Bridge center span barge, restricting vessels operating in the navigable waters on the Elizabeth River from the Campostella Bridge located in the Eastern Branch of the

Elizabeth River to the Gilmerton Bridge. The purpose of this rule is to protect mariners and the public transiting the Elizabeth River from hazards associated with the span move, construction and placement. This movement is scheduled to begin at 6 a.m. on January 7, 2013, weather permitting. Because of the size of the barge and the width of the waterway, vessels will not be able to transit around the barge, necessitating closure of the entire waterway from the Campostella Bridge to the Gilmerton Bridge. Transit is expected to take approximately seven hours. This action is necessary to ensure the safety of PCL Construction and vessels immediately prior to, during, and following the transit of the span.

In addition to the moving safety zone, the Coast Guard will establish a temporary safety zone and extended waterway closure at the Gilmerton Bridge starting at 6 a.m. on January 7, 2013, weather permitting, until January 11, 2013. This safety zone will be established in the interest of public safety during span placement at the Gilmerton Bridge. The inclement weather dates are January 8, 2013 through January 12, 2013. This temporary safety zone will encompass the waters directly under and 200 feet on either side of the Gilmerton Bridge, crossing the Elizabeth River. Except for vessels authorized by the Captain of the Port or

his Representative, no person or vessel may enter or remain in the safety zone during the time frame listed. Coast Guard Captain of the Port will give notice of the enforcement of the safety zone by all appropriate means to provide the widest dissemination of notice among the affected segments of the public. This will include publication in the Local Notice to Mariners and Marine Information Broadcasts. Marine information and facsimile broadcasts may also be made for these events, beginning 24 to 48 hours before the event.

While this construction was originally scheduled to commence in September, 2012, construction has been delayed due to scheduling concerns and other logistical issues. For these reasons, the effective date in this final rule has been rescheduled to January 7, 2013.

#### D. Regulatory Analyses

We developed this rule after considering numerous statutes and executive orders related to rulemaking. Below we summarize our analyses based on 13 of these statutes or executive orders.

##### 1. Regulatory Planning and Review

This rule is not a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, as supplemented by Executive Order 13563,

Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review, and does not require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of Executive Order 12866 or under section 1 of Executive Order 13563. The Office of Management and Budget has not reviewed it under those Orders. The primary impact of these regulations will be on vessels wishing to transit the affected waterways during the moving safety zone accompanying the Glimerton Bridge Span Barge and the safety zone at the Gilmerton Bridge beginning at 6 a.m. on January 3, 2013 through January 7, 2013 with inclement weather dates of January 8, 2013 through January 12, 2013. Although these regulations prevent traffic from transiting a portion of the Elizabeth River during these events, that restriction is limited in duration, affects only a limited area, and will be well publicized to allow mariners to make alternative plans for transiting the affected area. This regulation is designed to ensure such transit is conducted in a safe and orderly fashion.

## 2. Impact Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612), we have considered the impact of this rule on small entities. The Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b) that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This rule will

affect the following entities, some of which might be small entities: the owners or operators of vessels intending to operate or anchor in portions of the Elizabeth River, in Virginia. The regulations would not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities for the following reasons: the restrictions are limited in duration, it affects only limited areas, and will be well publicized to allow mariners to make alternative plans for transiting the affected areas.

If you think that your business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction qualifies as a small entity and that this rule would have a significant economic impact on it, please submit a comment (see ADDRESSES) explaining why you think it qualifies and how and to what degree this rule would economically affect it.

### 3. Assistance for Small Entities

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-121), we want to assist small entities in understanding this proposed rule so that they can better evaluate its effects on them and participate in the rulemaking. If the rule would affect your small business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction and you have questions concerning its provisions or options for compliance, please contact

LCDR Hector Cintron, Waterways Management Division Chief, Sector Hampton Roads, Coast Guard; telephone 757-668-5581, e-mail [Hector.L.Cintron@uscg.mil](mailto:Hector.L.Cintron@uscg.mil). The Coast Guard will not retaliate against small entities that question or complain about this temporary rule or any policy or action of the Coast Guard.

#### 4. Collection of Information

This rule will call for no new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520.).

#### 5. Federalism

A rule has implications for federalism under Executive Order 13132, Federalism, if it has a substantial direct effect on State or local governments and would either preempt State law or impose a substantial direct cost of compliance on them. We have analyzed this proposed rule under that Order and have determined that it does not have implications for federalism.

#### 6. Protest Activities

The Coast Guard respects the First Amendment rights of protesters. Protesters are asked to contact the person listed in the "For Further Information Contact" section to coordinate protest activities so that your message can be

received without jeopardizing the safety or security of people, places or vessels.

#### 7. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531-1538) requires Federal agencies to assess the effects of their discretionary regulatory actions. In particular, the Act addresses actions that may result in the expenditure by a State, local, or tribal government, in the aggregate, or by the private sector of \$100,000,000 (adjusted for inflation) or more in any one year. Though this rule will not result in such an expenditure, we do discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

#### 8. Taking of Private Property

This rule will not cause a taking of private property or otherwise have taking implications under Executive Order 12630, Governmental Actions and Interference with Constitutionally Protected Property Rights.

#### 9. Civil Justice Reform

This rule meets applicable standards in sections 3(a) and 3(b)(2) of Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform, to minimize litigation, eliminate ambiguity, and reduce burden.

#### 10. Protection of Children

We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks. This rule is not an economically significant rule and would not create an environmental risk to health or risk to safety that might disproportionately affect children.

#### 11. Indian Tribal Governments

This rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it would not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes.

#### 12. Energy Effects

We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13211, Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use. We have determined that it is not a "significant energy action" under that order because it is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866 and is not likely to have a significant adverse effect on the supply, distribution, or use of energy. The Administrator of the

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs has not designated it as a significant energy action. Therefore, it does not require a Statement of Energy Effects under Executive Order 13211.

### 13. Technical Standards

This rule does not use technical standards. Therefore, we did not consider the use of voluntary consensus standards.

### 14. Environment

We have analyzed this rule under Department of Homeland Security Management Directive 023-01 and Commandant Instruction M16475.1D, which guide the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321-4370f), and have made a preliminary determination that this action is one of a category of actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. This rule is categorically excluded from further review under paragraph 34 (g) of Figure 2-1 of the Commandant Instruction. Upon receipt of consultation comments all documentation will be made available in the docket where indicated under ADDRESSES. This rule involves establishing a temporary safety zone. An environmental analysis checklist and a categorical exclusion

determination will be available in the docket where indicated under ADDRESSES.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 165

Harbors, Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Security measures, Waterways.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard proposes to amend 33 CFR part 165 as follows:

PART 165 -REGULATED NAVIGATION AREAS AND LIMITED ACCESS AREAS

1. The authority citation for part 165 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1231;46 U.S.C. Chapter 701, 3306, 3703; 50 U.S.C. 191, 195; 33 CFR 1.05-1, 6.04-1, 6.04-6, 160.5; Pub. L. 107-295, 116 Stat. 2064; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 0170.1.

2. Add temporary § 165.T05-0642 to read as follows:

165.T05-0642 Safety Zone; Gilmerton Bridge Center Span Float-in, Elizabeth River; Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Chesapeake, Virginia.

(a) Regulated Area. The following area is a safety zone: Regulated Area 1: All waters of the Eastern Branch of the Elizabeth River starting 400 feet behind the Gilmerton Bridge center span barge and extending to the

entrance of the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River and continuing south in the Southern Branch of Elizabeth River to the Gilmerton Bridge in the vicinity of Norfolk, Portsmouth and Chesapeake, VA. As the Gilmerton Bridge center span barge transits through the waterway, the northern portions of the waterway will reopen. Regulated Area 2: All waters of the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River directly under and 200 feet on either side of the Gilmerton Bridge in the vicinity of Chesapeake, VA.

(b) Definition. For the purposes of this part, Captain of the Port Representative means any U.S. Coast Guard commissioned, warrant or petty officer who has been authorized by the Captain of the Port, Hampton Roads, Virginia to act on his behalf.

(c) Regulations. (1) In accordance with the general regulations in 165.23 of this part, entry into this zone is prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port, Hampton Roads or his designated representatives.

(2) The operator of any vessel in the immediate vicinity of this safety zone shall:

(i) Stop the vessel immediately upon being

directed to do so by any commissioned, warrant or petty officer on shore or on board a vessel that is displaying a U.S. Coast Guard Ensign.

(ii) Proceed as directed by any commissioned, warrant or petty officer on shore or on board a vessel that is displaying a U.S. Coast Guard Ensign.

(3) The Captain of the Port, Hampton Roads can be reached through the Sector Duty Officer at Sector Hampton Roads in Portsmouth, Virginia at telephone Number (757) 668-5555.

(4) The Coast Guard Representatives enforcing the safety zone can be contacted on VHF-FM marine band radio channel 13 (165.65Mhz) and channel 16 (156.8 Mhz).

(d) Enforcement Period This regulation will be enforced starting at 6 a.m. on January 3, 2013 through January 7, 2013 with inclement weather dates of January 8, 2013 through January 12, 2013.

Dated: November 29, 2012.

John K. Little

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard  
Captain of the Port Hampton Roads

[FR Doc. 2012-29828 Filed 12/10/2012 at 8:45 am; Publication Date: 12/11/2012]